ACADEMIC BOARD (AB)
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Tuesday 30 April 2019
Time: 10am
Venue: Council Chamber, Chancellery

PRESENT:
Associate Professor D Cohen (Academic Board President and Chair)
Professor M-L McLaws (Deputy President of the Academic Board)
Associate Professor G Forsyth (Deputy President of the Academic Board)
Professor A Simmons (representing the Vice-Chancellor)
Scientia Professors J Roberts, J Murphet, M Santamouris and G Williams
Professors M Crossley, M Davis, A Deletic, A Durbach, N Fisk, M Green,
R Harley, M Hoffman, E Johnston, N Kessissoglou, H Lochhead,
G Lodewijks, J Morris, A Munster, S Parameswaran, J Seidel, A Steel,
C Styles, M Uncles, S Zlatanova and A Zwi
Associate Professors R Bolt, J Bryant, L Lixinski and M Michael
Drs C Benson, N Castano Rodriguez, S Clark, C Collins, G Edwards,
J Galliott, R Green, M Iqbal, A Kayis-Kumar, D Moreau, M Nehme and
J Steele
Ms S Azad, Mr N Bedford, Ms N Bhattacharya, Mr A Cain-Grey, Mr R Challis,
Ms N Daud, Ms S Kong and Mr G Vats

IN ATTENDANCE:
Professors E Baldry, B Boyle and G Velan (for the Dean of Medicine)
Associate Professors D Blaazer (for the Dean of Arts & Social Sciences) and
L Piggott
Mr B Black, Mr M Borchert, Ms K George, Mr D Gleeson, Ms S Kinch, Ms
S Mohamed, Mr N Morris, Ms M Pavelkova, Mr L Pearcey and Mr M Smith

SECRETARY:
Ms Fatima Velosa (Senior Governance Officer)

Quorum: 20
RAMS: 2019/01240

For convenience, items were taken out of agenda order.

A Procedural Matters

1. Apologies and leave of absence

The Board noted apologies from the following Board members:
Professors D Blackman, N Di Girolamo, S Dodds, M Frater, I Jacobs, S Loo, R Phillips and
M Tani, Drs B Oo and V Sreenivasan, Mr J Fox, Ms A Griffin, Ms V Rathi, MIDN L Rowe
and Mr A Sagotra.

The Chair welcomed A/Professor Blaazer, the Interim Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Social
Sciences, to the Academic Board.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 March 2019

RESOLVED
The Academic Board confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2019 as
an accurate record and authorised the Chair to sign them.
3. Matters arising, and business carried forward (other than business covered on the agenda)

The Board noted that there were no matters arising other than business covered on the agenda.

4. Starring of items, adoption of unstarred items and rearrangement of the agenda

The Chair advised that item 14.4 was to be withdrawn as it was intended to be considered at the 18 June 2019 Academic Board meeting.

The Board adopted all the unstarred items, and starred items 8 and 13 for discussion.

5. Confirmation of confidential items

The Board noted that the following items should be treated as confidential to Academic Board members and were not for circulation outside of Academic Board:

11.1 – Results of the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) 2018 Assessment
11.1 – Results of the Engagement and Impact Australia (EIA) 2018 Assessment
16.1 – Doctor of Science recommendation

6. President's Report

RESOLVED

The Academic Board received and noted the tabled report of the President of the Academic Board.

Note for the record

The Board noted that UNSW Council members had considered the draft Representation on UNSW Committees and Decision-Making Bodies Procedure at the Council meeting of 8 April 2019 and agreed fully with the principles underpinning the Procedure. However, concerns had been expressed about such a procedure being binding on Council and its committees, given the requirements of the UNSW Act and the UNSW By-law. The Board noted that the Procedure had been referred back to the DVC, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion for amendment and resubmission.

It was noted that the current Academic Board composition met the requirements of the draft Procedure and would be binding as indicated.

6.1 Review of Terms of Reference of University Higher Degree Research Committee (UHDRC)

RESOLVED

The Academic Board recommended to UNSW Council that it approve the proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference of the University Higher Degree Research Committee.

7. Vice-Chancellor's Report

Professor Simmons advised that the Vice-Chancellor was attending a Group of Eight Universities meeting in Perth. On behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Simmons reported on the following:

1. As there had been a decrease in student load, the University had been monitoring student enrolments for T1 2019 and Summer Term, in particular. Although T2 enrolments appeared slightly higher, the University was asked to be prudent with expenditure, as it would be a difficult year to assess during the implementation of the UNSW3+ model.
2. The Vice-Chancellor wished to express his gratitude to all staff for their efforts in the transition to UNSW3+ in T1 2019, acknowledging that the compressed timeframe for
examinations and assessments may be stressful, but that the UNSW3+ teams were committed to providing support to the Faculties.

3. The soft launch of The Lounge on Level 11 of the Library, for all UNSW staff to enjoy, would be held on 1 May 2019. The VCO Chief Operating Officer, Ms Mohamed, was thanked for her work on this project.

The Chair thanked Professor Simmons for her report.

8. Questions on notice

RESOLVED
The Academic Board received and noted the responses provided by Professor Simmons to various questions relating to the introduction of Quantitative Benchmarks (QBs), which were received from Board members after the 26 March 2019 Board meeting.

RESOLVED
The Academic Board received and approved the following tabled motion, proposed by Scientia Professor Murphet, with A/Professor Lixinski and Dr Steele as seconders:
That a committee be required to undertake an evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of the Quantitative Benchmarks (QBs) pilot scheme upon its completion, and that such a committee include nominees of the Board.

Note for the record
The Board noted the following reasons provided for the proposal of the motion:
• Academics believed it was important for them to play a role in the way in which the QB scheme was assessed.
• Although the QBs were considered an operational issue, academics believed that they had academic implications.

Board members noted that the motion was passed by a majority of votes and that there were no dissenting votes. The Chair advised that the outcomes of the evaluation should be reported to the Board in early 2020.

9. TORCH Program

The Chair invited the DVC Enterprise, Professor Boyle, to present on the TORCH Program.

Professor Boyle presented on opportunities for UNSW students within the TORCH precincts, ranging from research placements to PhDs.

The Board noted that students were able to thrive as the University was transforming the education experience, preparing global-minded graduates and empowering young people to create brighter futures.

Professor Boyle confirmed that the presentation should be circulated to the Board members for use as appropriate.

The Chair thanked Professor Boyle for his presentation.

10. Strategy 2025+

The Chair invited the Chief of Strategic Initiatives (CSI), Mr Black, to present on the Strategy 2025+.

Mr Black discussed the following:
• The ambitious and bold journey and achievements of the Strategy 2025 thus far.
• The University's extraordinary progress and rate of change.
• Reviews of all the components of the current Strategy 2025 with a view to revising the Strategy in response to changes in the University environment and experience since its launch in 2015.
• The consultation processes and milestones for the development of the UNSW Strategy 2025+, including opportunities for all University stakeholders to provide input to the process through discussion and options papers as well as surveys for staff and students.

The Chair reported that a substantial portion of the 17 September 2019 Academic Board meeting would be spent on S25+ discussions ahead of UNSW Council endorsement of S25+ in early 2020 for commencement in 2021.

The Board noted that Mr Black would be invited to attend Academic Board meetings in 2019.

The Chair thanked Mr Black for his presentation, which would be circulated to the Board members for dissemination and use as appropriate. Board members were encouraged to participate in the consultation process and provide input to the Strategy 2025+.

D Reports

11. Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research

RESOLVED
The Academic Board received and noted the report of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research.

Note for the record
The DVCR, Professor Fisk, summarised his report, covering the S25 Researcher Recruitment Initiatives as part of SHARP and the Scientia Fellows, BORIS and the 2019 Research Block Grant (RBG), as detailed in the attachments to his report.

The Chair thanked Professor Fisk for his report.

11.1 Results of the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) 2018 Assessment – Confidential

RESOLVED
The Academic Board received and noted the outstanding confidential results for UNSW of the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) 2018 Assessment.

Note for the record
The DVCR reported on the significant improvement for UNSW on ERA 2012 and 2015, and he thanked and congratulated UNSW researchers for their sterling work on both the ERA and the Engagement and Impact Australia (EIA). The DVCR invited the PVCR, Professor Deletic, to discuss the EIA results and thanked her, in particular, for her outstanding leadership, which had contributed to the excellent results.

11.1 Results of the Engagement and Impact Australia (EIA) 2018 Assessment – Confidential

RESOLVED
The Academic Board received and noted the excellent confidential results for UNSW of the Engagement and Impact Australia (EIA) 2018 Assessment.

Note for the record
The PVCR reported on the inaugural EIA 2018 exercise, administered by the Australian Research Council (ARC), released on 29 March 2019, as detailed in the document circulated to Academic Board members ahead of the Board meeting. The PVCR thanked
the DVC Enterprise, Professor Boyle, and the Director Knowledge Exchange, Mr Dawson, for their work on the EIA 2018 Assessment.

The Chair thanked the DVCR and PVCR for the reports presented, congratulating Professor Boyle and Mr Dawson on the amount of data collected, and everyone who had participated in achieving the outstanding results.

12. Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic (DVCA)

RESOLVED
The Academic Board received and noted the report of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic.

Note for the record
The DVCA, Professor Crossley, highlighted the following:
- Although international student enrolments had decreased slightly, domestic demand had exceeded expectations in T1 2019. Staff should consider running courses in Summer 2020 to boost their student numbers.
- Although the UNSW3+ model was functioning well and had ensured many improvements, every effort would have to be made to ensure a smooth process for examinations and assessments in the transition from T1 to T2 2019.

12.1 QILT Student Experience Survey (SES) 2018 Results Summary

The DVCA presented on the QILT SES 2018 results, for circulation to the Board members after the meeting.

The Board noted the following:
- Whereas there were some areas with high student experience scores, there had been little change from the 2017 survey.
- UNSW still lagged, along with various other Sydney-based universities, towards the bottom of the league table.
- Students valued kindness in staff and the perception that staff cared about them.
- Various initiatives were being undertaken by the Division of the DVCA relating to course delivery and design, support services and facilities aimed at enhancing the overall student experience.

Professor Crossley asked all staff to consider whether the initiatives were the right ones for the University or whether others should be identified.

The Chair thanked the DVCA for his presentation.

12.2 Academic Standing and Re-enrolment Appeals – Semester 2 2018

RESOLVED
The Academic Board received and noted the report on Academic Standing and Re-enrolment Appeals – Semester 2 2018.

E Policies and Procedures

13. Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Procedure

The draft WIL Procedure was discussed and referred back to relevant Academic Board Committees and stakeholders for further consideration of the following aspects identified by various Faculty representatives:
- The nature of required legal contracts with external organisations providing WIL placements.
- Intellectual Property (IP) placements.
• The resulting administrative burden of processing WIL placements for thousands of students.

The Acting PVCE, Professor Steel, explained that as a WIL Procedure was required by TEQSA, to protect students, the University and employers, further substantial delays in finalising the Procedure could be problematic. The Board noted that a revised WIL Procedure, supported by relevant documentation and templates, would be presented to the Board as soon as possible.

Professor Steel confirmed that, as reported under the Report of the DVCA, A/Professor Piggott had recently been appointed as the WIL Academic Director, which would facilitate the implementation and centralisation of WIL.

14. **Academic Programs** (New and Revised)  
   (Program proposals from ABPC of 5 April 2019)

**RESOLVED**  
The Academic Board approved the following program proposals, except 14.4, as detailed in the AIMS proposals:

**Business – New (Postgraduate)**
14.1 8446 Master of Information Systems Management (Extension)

**Art & Design – Revisions (Postgraduate)**
14.2 7322 Graduate Certificate in Visualisation, Simulation, and Immersive Design  
14.3 9322 Master of Visualisation, Simulation, and Immersive Design

**Arts & Social Sciences – Revision (Undergraduate)**
14.4 3438 Media (Screen and Sound Production)  
This item was withdrawn as it was intended to be considered at a future Academic Board meeting.

**Business – Revisions (Postgraduate)**
14.5 8625 Master of Business Administration (Specialised)  
14.6 7457 Graduate Certificate in Analytics  
14.7 5437 Graduate Diploma in Analytics  
14.8 8437 Master of Analytics

15. **Academic Programs** – Disestablishments, Built Environment

**RESOLVED**  
The Academic Board approved the following Built Environment academic program disestablishments:

15.1 8149 Master of Urban Renewal and Policy  
15.2 5149 Graduate Diploma in Urban Renewal and Policy  
15.3 7149 Graduate Certificate in Urban Renewal and Policy  
15.4 8313 Master of Urban Policy and Strategy  
15.5 5313 Graduate Diploma in Urban Policy and Strategy  
15.6 7313 Graduate Certificate in Urban Policy and Strategy

16. **Higher Doctorates – Confidential**
16.1 Doctor of Science (1)

**RESOLVED**  
The Academic Board approved the award of the Doctor of Science to Professor Ostoja (Steve) Vucic, as detailed in the documents presented.

17. **Academic Partnerships** – Nil
18. Academic Board and University Committees, DVCA Board of Studies and Faculty Boards

RESOLVED
The Academic Board received and noted the minutes of the following meetings, except 18.6:

18.1 Academic Board Programs Committee (ABPC) – 5 April 2019 – unsigned minutes
18.2 University Research Committee (URC) – 7 March 2019 – unsigned minutes
18.3 University Higher Degree Research Committee (UHDRC) – 28 February 2019 – signed minutes
18.4 Program Review Committee (PRC) of the AB – 2 April 2019 – unsigned minutes
18.5 DVCA Board of Studies – 14 February 2019
18.6 Art & Design – 6 March 2019 – to follow as confidential aspects could not be circulated until the minutes were confirmed and signed
18.7 Medicine – 12 February 2019

H Any Other Business


There was no business without notice.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 12pm.

Next Academic Board meeting: Tuesday 18 June 2019, 10am to 12pm, Council Chamber, Chancellery

Associate Professor David Cohen
Academic Board President and Chair
18 June 2019